



03-26-07

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Cobbley et al.

Serial No.: 09/576,727

Filed: May 23, 2000

For: SYSTEM FOR LOCATING
CONDUCTIVE SPHERES UTILIZING
SCREEN AND HOPPER OF SOLDER
BALLS (as amended)

Confirmation No.: 3108

Examiner: M. Trinh

Group Art Unit: 3729

Attorney Docket No.: 2269-3639.1US
(97-1383.01/US)

Notice of Allowance Mailed:

December 27, 2006

NOTICE OF EXPRESS MAILING

Express Mail Mailing Label Number: EV 962535518 US

Date of Deposit with USPS: March 23, 2007

Person making Deposit: Di Sanders

TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Mail Stop Issue Fee
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

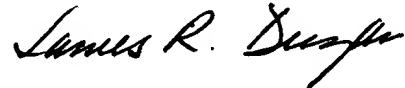
Applicants submit herewith Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal for the above-captioned application and a check in the amount of \$1,400.00 in payment therefor.

Also enclosed is an Amendment Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.312(a) and Response to Notice to File Corrected Application Papers (17 pages), plus attached Replacement Sheets of Drawings

(2 sheets) and Annotated Sheet Showing Changes Made (1 sheet); Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance (2 pages); and Fee Addressee for Receipt of PTO Notices Relating to Maintenance Fees (2 pages).

Applicants understand that no additional fees are required. However, if the Office determines that any comparison fees or other additional fees are required, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any such fees to TraskBritt Deposit Account No. 20-1469. A copy of this Transmittal Letter is enclosed for deposit account charging purposes.

Respectfully submitted,



James R. Duzan
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Attorney for Applicant(s)
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Salt Lake City, Utah 84110-2550
Telephone: 801-532-1922

Date: March 23, 2007
JRD/nj:lmh

Enclosures: Part B - Issue Fee Transmittal
Check No. 23585 in the amount of \$1,400.00
Copy of Transmittal Letter
Amendment Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.312(a) and Response to Notice to File
Corrected Application Papers (17 pages)
Attached Replacement Sheets of Drawings (2 sheets) and Annotated Sheet Showing
Changes Made (1 sheet)
Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance (2 pages)
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COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Mail Stop ISSUE FEE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This communication is filed in response to the Notice of Allowance mailed December 27, 2006, and sets forth Applicant's comments, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.104(e), on the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance accompanying the Notice of Allowance.

In the Notice of Allowance, the Examiner indicates:

The prior art as a whole does not teach or suggest the claimed system invention set forth in details in each independent claims 1 and 18 which including the combination limitations of "a hopper having a bottom opening having a dimension extending across said first pattern for dispensing said spheres into said plurality of through-holes extending across said stencil plate, the bottom opening having width in the range of about two diameters of a conductive sphere to about ten diameters of a conductive sphere, said hopper having a bottom lower surface spaced from an upper surface of the stencil plate a distance in the range of about less than one-half the diameter of a conductive sphere to about less than one-third the diameter of a conductive sphere; and a positioning apparatus for moving said hopper over said pattern relative said stencil plate to place said spheres into said plurality of through-holes onto one of the recessed sites and level sites of said surface of said substrate" (see amended claims 1 and 18). Accordingly, claims 1-3, 5-6, 8, 18-20, 12 (sic) through 23 and 25 are allowed.

Applicants concur with the reasons as stated by the Examiner insofar as they comprise a summary, which is exemplary and not limiting. However, the scope of the claims is based on the actual language of the claims and equivalents thereof, and not on a paraphrase or summary of the claim language.

The Independent claims as allowed recite features and methodology in addition to, and in different language than, those described in the Statement of Allowable Subject Matter. Furthermore, the dependent claims recite elements in addition to those of the independent claims, which are also not reflected in the Statement of Allowable Subject Matter. Such additional elements, in combination with those of the independent claims from which each claim depends, provide additional reasons for patentability. Accordingly, the scope of the claims must be determined from the literal language of each as a whole, as well as all equivalents thereof.

Therefore, to the extent that the Examiner's reasons for allowance as stated are not relevant to, or wholly encompassing of, a particular claim, independent or dependent, Applicants assume that (pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.104(e)) the Examiner has determined that the record of the prosecution as a whole of the application makes clear the reasons for allowing those claims. Further, it appears, pursuant to M.P.E.P. 1302.14, that the Examiner's Statements of Allowable Subject Matter are not intended to encompass all of the reasons for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: March 23, 2007

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